REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 1, 8, 14, 19, 23, 28, and 29 are amended. New claims 31-38 are added. Claims 1-38 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 19 stands objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. As part of this response, claim 19 has been rewritten to incorporate its base claim (claim 14). Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 19 is in condition for allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-18, 20-23, and 26-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,282,573 to Darago et al. (hereinafter "Darago"). Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-18, 20-23, and 26-30 are not anticipated by Darago.

Darago is directed to managing courseware and/or other content in a shared use operating environment (see, col. 7, lines 49-51), which is an environment in which more than one person can use content, without necessarily sharing a specific copy of that content, with the assistance of a computer network or a collection of coupled networks (see, col. 8, lines 1-5). Darago discloses a system including a registration server, multiple content servers, and multiple clients (see, Fig. 1). Each content server contains courseware and/or other works managed by the architecture of Darago (see, col. 8, lines 50-51), and each content server serves

the managed content for presentation to registered users (see, col. 8, lines 55-57). Each client workstation is able to present, to at least one registered user, courseware and/or other content which is served over a link by a content server (see, col. 9, lines 20-23). Registration provides users with a unique user name or user ID, may also coordinate a password or otherwise manage access control, and may also obtain billing or payment information such as the user's credit card information (see, col. 8, lines 58-64).

In contrast, amended claim 1 recites, in part:

> collecting, using one or more registration wizards at a client computer, registration information for manufacturers of components of the client computer;

Applicant respectfully submits that Darago does not disclose or suggest collecting registration information for manufacturers of components of a client computer as claimed in amended claim 1.

As discussed above, Darago is directed to serving, from the content servers, courseware and/or other content to registered users at client workstations. Applicant respectfully submits that the registering of users to be served such content does not disclose or suggest collecting registration information for manufacturers of components of the client computer as claimed in amended claim 1. Darago is directed to registering users so that content can be served to the registered users from content servers. Darago is thus directed to registering users so that content can be provided users, not registering information for manufacturers of components of the client computer as claimed in amended claim 1.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 1 is allowable over Darago.

With respect to amended claim 8, Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to the discussion above regarding amended claim 1, Darago does not disclose or suggest collecting, using a registration wizard at a client computer, registration information for manufacturers of components of the client computer as claimed in amended claim 8. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 8 is allowable over Darago

With respect to amended claim 14, Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to the discussion above regarding amended claim 1, Darago does not disclose or suggest collecting, using a single registration wizard at a client computer, registration information for a plurality of registering components of the client computer; and establishing a plurality of connections between the client computer and a plurality of registration databases corresponding to manufacturers of the plurality of registering components as claimed in amended claim 14. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 14 is allowable over Darago

With respect to amended claim 23, Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to the discussion above regarding amended claim 1, Darago does not disclose or suggest a registration wizard to collect registration information for a plurality of manufacturers of a plurality of components of a client computer as claimed in amended claim 23. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 23 is allowable over Darago

With respect to amended claim 28, Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to the discussion above regarding amended claim 1, Darago does not disclose or suggest a client computer, coupled to the network, to collect registration information for a plurality of manufacturers of components of the client computer using a single user interface and to upload portions of the registration information to registration databases of the plurality of registration databases via a single communication link as claimed in amended claim 28. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 28 is allowable over Darago

With respect to amended claim 29, Applicant respectfully submits that, analogous to the discussion above regarding amended claim 1, Darago does not disclose or suggest instructions that cause a processor to collect registration information for manufacturers of components of the apparatus as claimed in amended claim 29. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 29 is allowable over Darago

Given that claims 2-7 depend from amended claim 1, claims 9-13 depend from amended claim 8, claims 15-18 and 20-22 depend from amended claim 14, claims 26-27 depend from amended claim 23, and claim 30 depends from amended claim 29, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-7, 9-13, 15-18, 20-22, 26-27, and 30 are likewise allowable over Darago for at least the reasons discussed above.

Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 rejections be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 24-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Darago in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,161,125 to Traversat et al. (hereinafter "Traversat"). Applicant respectfully submits that claims 24-25 are not obvious over Darago in view of Traversat.

Traversat is directed to a data framework or schema and associated protocol for exchanging data residing in the schema among computers in a computer network (see, col. 5, lines 62-64). Data relating to a client is stored in a client schema that resides in the client memory, and configuration data for each of the clients is stored in a server schema which resides on a network server (see, col. 6, lines 7-10). Configuration data is exchanged between the two schema's or hierarchies through a client/server protocol which insures that the correct information is derived from the server schema and is transported or entered into the client schema on the client machine and vice versa (see, col. 6, lines 11-15). The data schema of Traversat allows a network administrator to manage configuration information for each of the computers in the network from a central repository such as single server (see, col. 6, lines 19-23).

With respect to claims 24 and 25, each of claims 24 and 25 depends from amended claim 23. Applicant respectfully submits that each of claims 24 and 25 is allowable over Darago at least due to its dependency on amended claim 23.

Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that Traversat is not cited as curing, and does not cure, this deficiency of Darago. Traversat is directed to exchanging and storing data in clients and servers of a network, not a registration wizard to collect registration information for a plurality of manufacturers of a

plurality of components of a client computer as recited in amended claim 23. As discussed above, Traversat discloses allowing a network administrator to manage configuration information for each of the computers in the network from a central repository. This allows any software updates, version upgrades, or installation of new applications that require knowledge of and access to a subsystem (client) configuration to be implemented from the central repository and propagated to the individual clients (see, col. 6, lines 23-27). Applicant respectfully submits that allowing a network administrator to manage configuration information for each of the computers in a network from a central repository does not disclose or suggest a registration wizard to collect registration information for a plurality of manufacturers of a plurality of components of a client computer as recited in amended claim 23.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 24 and 25 are allowable over Darago.

Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejections be withdrawn.

New Claims

New claims 31-38 are added to this application.

With respect to new claim 31, claim 31 depends from claim 1 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 31 is allowable over the cited references due to its dependency on claim 1. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not disclose or suggest one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein the components comprise software

components as recited in claim 31. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 31 is allowable over the cited references.

With respect to new claim 32, claim 32 depends from claim 1 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 32 is allowable over the cited references due to its dependency on claim 1. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not disclose or suggest one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein the components comprise hardware components as recited in claim 32. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 32 is allowable over the cited references.

With respect to new claim 33, claim 33 depends from claim 1 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 33 is allowable over the cited references due to its dependency on claim 1. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not disclose or suggest one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 1, wherein the components comprise both one or more hardware components and one or more software components as recited in claim 33. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 33 is allowable over the cited references.

With respect to new claim 34, claim 34 depends from claim 8 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 34 is allowable over the cited references due to its dependency on claim 18. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not disclose or suggest a method as recited in claim 8, wherein the components comprise both one or more hardware components and one or more software components as recited in claim 34. For at least these

reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 34 is allowable over the cited references.

With respect to new claim 35, claim 35 depends from claim 14 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 35 is allowable over the cited references due to its dependency on claim 14. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not disclose or suggest a method as recited in claim 14, wherein the plurality of registering components comprises both one or more hardware components and one or more software components as recited in claim 35. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 35 is allowable over the cited references.

With respect to new claim 36, claim 36 depends from claim 23 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 36 is allowable over the cited references due to its dependency on claim 23. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not disclose or suggest a system as recited in claim 23, wherein the plurality of components comprises both one or more hardware components and one or more software components as recited in claim 36. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 36 is allowable over the cited references.

With respect to new claim 37, claim 37 depends from claim 28 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 37 is allowable over the cited references due to its dependency on claim 28. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not disclose or suggest a system as recited in claim 28, wherein the components comprise both one or more hardware components and one or more software components as recited in claim 37. For at least these

reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 37 is allowable over the cited references.

With respect to new claim 38, claim 38 depends from claim 29 and Applicant respectfully submits that claim 38 is allowable over the cited references due to its dependency on claim 29. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not disclose or suggest an apparatus as recited in claim 29, wherein the components comprise both one or more hardware components and one or more software components as recited in claim 38. For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that new claim 38 is allowable over the cited references.

Conclusion

Claims 1-38 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: _August 22, 2002_   By: _____

Allan T. Sponseller
Reg. No. 38,318
(509) 324-9256

Version of Claims with Markings to Show Changes Made

1.   (Amended) One or more computer-readable media having stored thereon a computer program that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform functions including:

collecting, using one or more registration wizards at a client computer, registration information for manufacturers of components of the client computer [using one or more registration wizards];

establishing a communication link between the client computer and a network;

establishing a first connection, via the communication link, to a first registration server of a plurality of registration servers;

communicating at least a first portion of the registration information to the first registration server via the first connection;

establishing a second connection, via the communication link, to a second registration server of the plurality of registration servers; and

communicating at least a second portion of the registration information to the second registration server via the second connection.

8.   (Amended) A method comprising:

collecting, using a registration wizard at a client computer, registration information for manufacturers of components of the client computer [using a registration wizard];

establishing a communication link between the client computer and a network;

establishing a plurality of connections, via the communication link, between the client computer and a plurality of registration databases; and

communicating, for each of the plurality of connections, at least a portion of the registration information to one of the plurality of registration databases.

14.   (Amended) A method comprising:

collecting, using a single registration wizard at a client computer, registration information for a plurality of registering components of the client computer [using a single registration wizard];

establishing a plurality of connections between the client computer and a plurality of registration databases corresponding to manufacturers of the plurality of registering components; and

transferring at least a portion of the registration information to each of the plurality of registration databases via the plurality of connections.

19.   (Amended) A method [as recited in claim 14] comprising:

collecting, at a client computer, registration information for a plurality of registering components using a single registration wizard;

establishing a plurality of connections between the client computer and a plurality of registration databases corresponding to the plurality of registering components, wherein the establishing a plurality of connections comprises:

establishing, using a first dial-up number, a first communication link to a first of the plurality of registration databases,[;] and

upon terminating the first communication link, establishing, using a second dial-up number, a second communication link to a second of the plurality of registration databases; and

transferring at least a portion of the registration information to each of the plurality of registration databases via the plurality of connections.

23.   (Amended) A system comprising:

a registration wizard to collect registration information for a plurality of manufacturers of a plurality of components of a client computer; and

one or more posting modules, coupled to the registration wizard, to,

establish a plurality of connections between the client computer and a plurality of registration databases corresponding to the plurality of manufacturers, and

transfer at least a portion of the registration information to each of the plurality of registration databases via the plurality of connections.

28.   (Amended) A system comprising:

a plurality of server computers coupled to a network, each being coupled to at least one of a plurality of registration databases to store registration information received by the server computer; and

a client computer, coupled to the network, to collect registration information for a plurality of manufacturers of components of the client computer

using a single user interface and to upload portions of the registration information to registration databases of the plurality of registration databases via a single communication link.

29.   (Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a bus;

a processor coupled to the bus;

a network connection device coupled to the bus; and

a memory, coupled to the bus, to store a plurality of instructions that are executed by the processor, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed, cause the processor to,

collect registration information <u>for manufacturers of components of the apparatus,</u>

initiate, using the network connection device, a communication link to a network,

establish, via the communication link, a plurality of connections between the apparatus and a plurality of registration databases, and

communicate, for each of the plurality of connections, at least a portion of the registration information to one of the plurality of registration databases.